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TAGS: EAID PREL TU

SUBJECT: PORTUGAL TO CONSULT EU REGARDING TURKEY CHANGE OF STATUS IN EBRD

REF: STATE 41999

Poleconoff delivered reftel demarche points to the Ministry of Finance Office of Planning, Strategy, Evaluation and International Relations, GOP lead for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), outlining Turkey's change of status request and soliciting GOP support for a strategic review of the EBRD mandate before the Bank's decision. Multilateral Relations Division Chief Rosa Caetano speculated whether the review of the EBRD scheduled as part of Capital Resources Review 4 in 2010 might be an appropriate time to take up the question, but deferred providing a GOP position. Caetano said she understands the USG position but emphasized that European Union member states coordinate responses to such questions, and the Ministry must defer providing a position pending discussions with EU colleagues. Caetano indicated she will be attending the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank next week and anticipates discussing Turkey's EBRD request with EU colleagues at that time.

Stephenson